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Soulful blues 'bad girl' Etta James dead at 73



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Legendary US blues and soul singer Etta James, best known for her 1960 hit "At Last," died yesterday of complications from leukemia, her manager Lupe de Leon said. She was 73.

James, who flitted effortlessly from jazz, pop and love ballads to feisty R&B and who plunged into drug addiction



to win six Grammys, died at a hospital in Riverside, Califor-

"Cause of death was complications from leukemia. Her husband Artis Mills and sons Donto James and Sametto James were by her side," Lupe De Leon said in a statement, calling the soulful singer "a true original who could sing it all."

Continued on page 6

Dr. Ryan Peterson brings "Confronting the Climate-Energy Challenge" home to Arubans

Since Aruba's current administration took power in 2009, a driving force of their positions and platforms has been the issue of global warming, its effects on the world and Aruba. and the financial and environmental advantages of realizing their goal of the island being completely fossil fuel independent. This is considered a fundamental for a system and society that has achieved "sustainability."

The Harvard-Aruba Workshop that took place Monday and Tuesday, January 16 & 17, welcomed scientists from Harvard and TU Delft in many areas of expertise, but was



Erosion of Aruba Beaches within 20 years

REFLECTIONS ON CONFRONTING THE CLIMATE-ENERGY CHALLENGE **Implications** and novations in Aruba

Dr Ryan Peterson

moderated by Aruba's own Dr. Ryan Peterson, former Dean of the University of Aruba Faculty of Tourism & Hospitality Management and now the UN-ESCO Chair of Sustainable Development in small island states and by government appointment, President of the Aruba National Council for Innovation & Competitiveness.

Professor Daniel Schrag, a geologist and expert on climate change spoke of the urgency of action regarding this situation on Wednesday evening at the University of Aruba, presenting quite some data on its effects on a global level. His prognosis was bleak: afterwards, an audience member asked, "What effect can we on Aruba-a tiny island in the Caribbean possibly have to impact this global situation?"

It was the follow-up comments of Dr. Peterson that essentially correlated the data presented by Professor Schrag to a more personal

Continued on page 9



Check it out at:

http://www.themorningnewsaruba.com/index.php/photography-contest





Air Tran Airways receives AAA's coveted Wow 2011 Award



ORANJESTAD – Aruba Airport Authority N.V (AAA) proudly awarded Air Tran Airways with the Wow Award 2011 during its annual Relations Party reception

held at Suikertuin recently.
Air Tran Airways was recognized for its dedication and commitment towards Aruba and its contribution with enhanced daily service from Atlanta and new service from Baltimore.

Air Tran launched daily

service to Aruba in December 2011 from Atlanta and twice weekly service from Baltimore on the same date. Air Tran also services Orlando.

Air Tran Airways is a very popular carrier on Aruba and has greatly contributed towards the catering of the demand from the US Midwest region, an important feeder market. Due to the merger with Southwest in 2011, Air-Tran is uniquely positioned to serve this market.

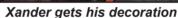
Mr. Dimitri Pavlowitch from GenAir services ground handler -- proudly accepted the award on Air Tran's behalf and thanked AAA N.V. for the recognition and reiterated Air Tran's commitment to the destination.

Pictures shows AAA's CEO Mr. Peter Steinmetz handing the coveted award over to Mr. Dimitri Pavlowitch representing Air Tran Airways.



Arubans Shawn Zarraga and Xander Bogaerts decorated as Knights in the Order of Oranje-Nassau







Shawn is knighted



With Governor Refunjol and proud family

Islanders have even more reason to be proud of native sons Shawn Zarraga and Xander Bogaerts, two young men who are on their way to being major league players of note; Shawn with the Milwaukee Brewers and Xander with the Boston Red Sox.

They have already made world sports news as part of the Dutch National Team that won the International Baseball Federation (IBAF) Championship title in Panama in October of last year; yesterday afternoon the Dutch Monarchy recognized their achievement by awarding them decorations as Ridder (Knight) in the Order of Oranje-Nassau. This singular honor of recognizing individuals who have dedicated their time and efforts to benefit

the community is usually reserved for the eve of April 30, the official celebration of Queen's Day. However, in special circumstances, exceptions will be made.

It was a particularly exhilarating moment for Holland and Aruba when the Dutch National Team made baseball history by winning the World Cup; it was the first time since 1938 that a European team had taken the title, wresting it from the powerhouse Cuba, which had dominated the competition for the past 26 years. It was the first win for Holland in their history. Shawn played the catcher's position and Xander was shortstop.

Considered the top team in Europe and sixth in the world by the IBAF, the Netherlands

Team boasts quite a few excellent players originating from Aruba and Curaçao, where baseball could be considered one of the great national sports.

Continued on page 5



Wk - 16 Apr. 20 - Apr. 27

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Together We Can Save campaign enjoys acceptance from community



Every day the technical team of WEB and ELMAR responds to the many calls from citizens interested in learning how to reduce their consumption of water and electricity. The reaction of customers is very positive because they have learned exactly how they can save on their utility bills in

a most simple manner

The technical team offers each client an "audit" which includes the revision of the electrical system, the lights being used, the airconditioner, refrigerator and all other appliances and electrical systems which has an influence on their use of electricity. The techni-

cal team also inspects their use of water and how efficient this is. They inspect all water lines, faucets, toilet and other water usage equipment in and around the house.

The team provides each client with advice on the spot regarding changes they should make to improve their use of energy. Many families have developed certain practices and habits in their homes which do not contribute to efficiency and to saving energy of which they may not be aware. These practices may be costing them unnecessary high monthly utility bills. Here is where the expert advice of the ELMAR and WEB team of the Hunto Nos Ta Spaar program can benefit each client significantly in helping to reduce their energy consumption and consequently reduce their energy bills.



The home visits and audits are completey gratis! All one needs to do is to call the number 525-4200 to make an appointment. Every Monday and Tuesday evening on ATV at 8:30pm and on Channel 23 TeleAruba on Mondays at 6:45pm and Wednesadays at 7:45pm information and testimonies of per-

sons who have benefitted from this program can be seen.

The main objective of this program is to help all citizens on the island to become conscious of how they use water and electricity and to find ways, practical ways, to reduce their consumption, hence to reduce their monthly utility bills.





Utility company, ELMAR N.V. supports "I Love My Body" campaign



ELMAR's Customer Relations Manager, Wanda Broeksema related in a recent encounter with Famia Plania that ELMAR always stands ready to... "support initiatives." of a good cause that has an impact on the entire community. As a national electric distribution company, we are convinced that the "I Love My Body" campaign is an excellent example of such a cause."

Continued on page 5



Street Car rails to be installed by August 2012...within 30 weeks!

ORANJESTAD -- According to Marlon Croes of DOW, the rails for the Street Car (Tram) for the city center, providing there are no setbacks should be installed within 30 weeks. On Saturday the container with the rails arrived here.

The purchase and installation of the rails was done in two phases. In the first phase the Dutch company "Nedeximpo" had the best bid for the purchase of the rails for Aruba. This Dutch company represents Thyssen Krupp of Germany, which is the makers of iron products. According to Marlon Croes, the first batch of the straight rails have arrived on Aruba last Saturday.

This week the DOW (Public Works Department) will be sending the street layout plans to the German company that is entrusted with building the rails to ensure that they are built according to the design. This means that upon arrival here it will simply be a matter of installing them on location. They

will be packed in sequence for shipping.

The second phase is the bid that was won by MNO Vervat, which is the installation of the rails.

They will lay a cement foundation and prepare the areas where the rails will be laid. They will begin with the straight rails and in the second phase, the curved rails will be installed. If all proceeds as planned, the work is scheduled to be completed within 30 weeks. Rails will be installed from the wharf to the mainstreet.

DOW's Marlon Croes explained that at certain points the Street Car will encounter road traffic, and at these points they will install automatic traffic barriers. Although the mainstreet will be



closed to traffic there will be points where traffic will cross over from one area to the next. This is purposely planned as a social control and to ensure a better flow of the traffic throughout the city center.

German tourists know how to get around Aruba while keeping it green"

Having visitors daily from all corners of the globe helps keep Arubans in touch with the latest and greatest, and a viable demonstration was done by German tourists off the AIDA Luna, which was in port January 19.

Anyone who saw the original "Ironman" movie will remember the neat-o RMP (Robotic Mobility Platform) used to traverse the huge Stark industrial complex by the villain played by Jeff Bridges; they could be seen on Aruba's sidewalks being deployed in a most pleasant manner to tour the island while truly being in touch with the environment.

Led by their tour guides and instructors from the AIDA Luna, German tourists were observed gliding along the Oranjestad boardwalk on their way to Palm Beach on these silent, electrically run devices; in the evenings the cruise ship charges them up to be used at their next call. Those signing up for the tour are first trained by their guides Stefan and Radu Cotenescu, as they operate much like wearing skis, lean forward, and you advance forward, lean back to back up, lean left or right to turn. They are even issued a special "RMP Driver's License" certifying them to operate these unique and environmentally friendly personal transports,



With tour guides Stefan and Radu



Their certified RMP driver's license

which are capable of up to 20 km per hour and produce no emissions whatsoever.

Swathed in special safety gear, the German group created quite a sensation as they made their way round the island; able to see all the sights while fully enjoying Aruba's tropical breezes and keeping the environment clean. Gotta love modern technology!



ELMAR N.V. supports...

Continued from page 4



Although the campaign has practically nothing to do with electricity nor with the use of energy, the ELMAR decided nonetheless to support the campaign. This is because ELMAR stands for much more than just matters related to energy. Broeksema stated that ELMAR is much more interested in being a good corporate citizen in Aruba. Hence, the decision was taken to rather than participate in a Carnival group, to instead make a donation to an institution that is doing an excellent job during the Carnival season this year.

Famia Planea has received support from many other organizations in our community that are also working on the I Love My Body campaign directed to young people. These groups have joined forces to ensure that the message reaches as many young people as possible.

ELMAR included in their financial support to Famia Planea handbags containing flyers regarding how to save electricity. Famia Planea will also include their flyers of I Love My Body and other messages into these bags.

Photo shows Wanda Broeksema of Elmar confirming her company's commitment to support the campaign, and Evelyn

Arubans Shawn Zarraga and Xander Bogaerts decorated . . .

Continued from page 2

Aruba's Governor Fredis Refunjol, the appointed representative of the monarchy on Aruba, is a fanatical baseball fan, so he took particular pleasure in the impromptu awards ceremony at Fort Zoutman yesterday afternoon.

All the players of the victorious Netherlands National Team have been named Knights in the Order of Oranje-Nassau, and the various decoceremonies ration conducted in their home towns, to allow family and friends to be present. Aruba's Prime Min-

ister Mike Eman and Minister of Public Health and Sport, Dr. Richard Visser were also took time out to attend and congratulate the two young players; they have used their notoriety since their return to Aruba to participate in various events for youth with the hope of being positive role models and inspiring other young Arubans to aspire to notable achievements within their community and internationally.

"This means a lot to us for how it can set an example for our countrymen in that they can be or do anything they hope for if they persevere and aren't afraid to try," stated Shawn and Xander. "This is a great honor and wonderful for our families, that two young men under 25 should be so honored, we never thought something like this would happen. We feel very proud to be in the company of others who have dedicated their lives to the Aruban community without thought of recognition or fame, just always worked quietly behind the scenes; we hope island youth will take this



to heart and do what they can to make their fellow countrymen proud."

by Rosalie Klein

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Flowers at sea as Italy cruise wreck search resumes

GIGLIO ISLAND (AFP) - Relatives of those still missing from a stricken Italian cruise ship laid flowers on the sea by the wreck yesterday, a week after the tragedy in which up to 32 people are feared dead.

And as more stories of bravery emerged from the disaster, the ship's chaplain said captain Francesco Schettino -since reviled as an incompetent coward -- had cried in his arms once on shore.

Rescue workers meanwhile resumed operations on that part of giant 17-deck Costa Concordia still above water. Operations had been suspended earlier yesterday when the ship began slipping off a rocky ledge into the open sea.

High waves in the Mediterranean had heightened fears that the 114,500-ton ship, which is lying half-submerged on its side on the Tuscan island of Giglio, could sink completely, its tanks still full with 2,380 tons of fuel.

Eleven people have been confirmed dead in the tragedy so far including four French nationals, one Italian and a Spaniard among the passengers and two crew members -a Peruvian waiter and a Hungarian violinist. Three of the bodies recovered have not yet been identified.

Relatives of the 21 people still missing have travelled to

Giglio and towns on the Italian mainland, clinging to the hope that their loved ones survived.

The search was focussed on the third deck of the ship where the doomed luxury liner's lifeboats were.

Rescuers yesterday also sent down a small remote-controlled robot to determined whether the ship could be attached to its resting place.

Fresh amateur video footage came to light yesterday, one showing a crew member misleading dozens of frightened passengers wearing life jackets by saying there was no alarm and they should return to their cabins.

A second video from an inhabitant of Giglio shows the Costa Concordia sailing very close to the island on an earlier voyage. Lloyd's List in London said the ship had actually sailed nearer the island than when it crashed.

Dutch company Smit Salvage meanwhile said it was ready to pump out the fuel in what is known as a "hot-tapping" operation, but officials say that would require suspending the search on the ship.

Experts say the luxury ship is slipping off a rocky sea shelf at a rate of around one centimeter (0.4 inches) every hour towards the open sea.

Earth sciences professor Nicola Casagli said from the island the ship was lying on two rocks -- one under the bow and one under the stern -- but the middle part was suspended underwater.

The Italian cabinet yesterday declared a state of emergency for the island of Giglio.

Italian news agency ANSA reported the measure had been adopted, citing Parliamentary Affairs Minister Piero Giarda as he came out of the meeting.

The state of emergency is a formal measure aimed at helping operations in the area, where there are fears that a potential spill from the ship's tanks filled with 2,380 tons of fuel oil could cause an environmental disaster.

The Tuscan archipelago where Giglio is located is Europe's biggest marine sanctuary and a popular holiday spot with pristine sandy beaches.



Mexico City: A lonely scavenger burdened with a large sack of refuse walks across the "Bordo Poniente" garbage dump in Mexico City, on January 18, 2012. Some six thousand tons of garbage from the second world most populated city were daily deposited here for about 25 years until it was closed by the government last month. The dump has been considered as one of the main sources of greenhouse gases in Mexico. (AFP)

Deadly suicide blast, other explosions rock Nigeria

KANO (AFP) - Security forces in Nigeria's second-largest city battled gunmen after a suicide blast killed at least two police officers and several other major explosions targeted them yesterday.

The city of Kano, the largest in Nigeria's mainly Muslim north, erupted in chaos, with some 20 explosions heard and at least five police offices thought to have been targeted.

Local television was reporting that scores were feared dead in the attacks. Police were not responding to phone calls, but the state government announced a 24-hour curfew until further notice.

It was not immediately clear who was behind the violence, though previous such attacks in Nigeria's north have been blamed on Islamist group Boko Haram.

A senior police source said the suicide blast occurred at a regional police headquarters. Residents reported blasts and gunfire at the state police headquarters and said that at least two other police posts appeared to have been targeted.

An explosion was also heard in the area of a secret police office

Etta James dead at 73...

Contined from page 1

In tribute to the singer flowers were to be placed on her star on the storied Hollywood Walk of Fame, the stretch of sidewalk in the tourist heart of Hollywood dedicated to stars past and present.

James, who retired from stage appearances in 2009, has lived in Riverside, east of Los Angeles, for the last two decades. She was diagnosed with cancer two years ago.

Her \$1 million estate has been the subject of a legal battle between son Donto James and her husband Artis Mills, who is not his father.

Mills filed a suit last year seeking to have access to his wife's savings account. Donto James resisted the claim on the grounds that his mother gave him power-of-attorney over her affairs.

A local judge ordered in December that \$350,000 be used exclusively for her medical care.

Born Jamesetta Hawkins, James has won four Grammys and 17 Blues Music Awards. She was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1993 and was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Grammy in 2003.

She is also known for her soulful rendition of such songs as "I'd Rather Go Blind" and "All I Could Do Was Cry."

"At Last" was sung by R&B diva Beyonce when she serenaded new US President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama for their first dance on inauguration night in January 2009.





INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bird flu researchers agree to 60-day halt

WASHINGTON (AFP) - International scientists yesterday agreed to a temporary twomonth halt to controversial research on a bird flu virus that may be easily passed among humans, citing global health concerns

Two separate teams of researchers, one in the Netherlands and the other in the United States, found ways late last year to engineer the H5N1 virus so that it was transmitted among mammals, something that has previously been rare.

The breakthrough raised alarm that the method could fall into the wrong hands and unleash a massive flu pandemic that could cost millions of lives, and a US advisory panel in December urged that key details remain unpublished.

"Resulting from concerns about recent research on avian influenza, scientists working on transmission of the H5N1 strain have agreed to halt this area of research for 60 days to allow time for international discussion," said the letter from the researchers, published by the journals Science and Nature.

"We recognize that we and the rest of the scientific community need to clearly explain the benefits of this important research and the measures taken to minimize its possible risks," it added.

"We propose to do so in an

international forum in which scientific community comes together to discuss and debate these issues."

The US journal Science and the British magazine Nature have been working with researchers on edits to the manuscripts but have not said when or if they would eventually be published.

Until now, bird flu has been rare in humans, but particularly fatal in those who do get sick. H5N1 first infected humans in 1997 and has killed more than one in every two people that it infected, for a total of 350 deaths.

The concern is the virus could mutate and mimic past pandemic flu outbreaks such as the "Spanish flu" of 1918-1919 which killed 50 million people, and outbreaks in 1957 and 1968 that killed three mil-

Dutch teen sailor to complete solo world tour today

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch teen Laura Dekker, who went to court for the right to go to sea, will become the youngest sailor to circumnavigate the globe alone when she reaches the Caribbean island of Sint Maarten today.

"At 3.00 p.m. (1900 GMT) tomorrow, Laura will arrive in Sint Maarten, at the Dutch part of the island, a year after her departure on January 20, 2011," her manager Gerard van Erp said yesterday.

The teenager, who turns 17 on September 20, will beat the current record by some eight months, as she effectively has to complete her journey before September 16 to beat the record for the youngest sailor to make an unassisted world

The current record holder is Australian Jessica Watson, who achieved it in May 2010, three days before she turned 17.

But unlike Watson, who circumnavigated non-stop,



Dekker sailed from port-toport and was never at sea for more than three weeks.

Dekker's achievement will not be entered in the Guinness Book of World Records, which has refused to recognise records by minors which are considered "unsuitable."

Neither would the World Sailing Speed Record Council -- the official body that validates such records -- acknowledge the feat.

"All that matters is speed,

we don't do any personal records, age doesn't matter,' John Reed, the council's secretary, told AFP.

Dekker's manager has stressed that what matters to the teenager is not the record. "What is important, is for her dream to become reality," he

A welcoming ceremony has been planned for Dekker's arrival, with her parents, island officials and journalists expected among guests.

The Dutch teen originally set off from Gibraltar on August 21, 2010 in her yacht Guppy after winning a 10month court battle with child welfare authorities.

But a change of her planned course led her to make the starting point from her trip Sint Maarten instead.

A Dutch court had blocked plans for her to cast off a year earlier -- when she was just 14 -- and placed her in the care of welfare officers on the grounds that she was too young to guarantee her safety at sea.

She ran away to Sint laarten, an island of the Lesser Antilles divided between France and the Netherlands, and police had to escort her back home.

Born on a boat in New Zealand of a seafaring family, she also lived on a boat in the Netherlands with her father Dick and dog Spot before setting out on her voyage.

Cuba dissident buried in home town

HAVANA (AFP) - Cuban political dissident Wilmar Villar, who died after a 50-day prison hunger strike, was buried yesterday in his home town in told AFP.

sentence he received in November.

A wake was held for Villar

eastern Cuba, rights activists Villar, 31, died late Thursday after protesting a four-year

at a funeral home in his town

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of Contramaestre, some 900 kilometers (560 miles) southeast of Havana, and afterwards he was buried in a local cemetery, activists said.

Jose Daniel Ferrer, an expolitical prisoner living in the nearby city of Santiago de Cuba, said he was one of several activists unable to travel to Contramaestre. More than 30 dissidents in several towns were been arrested to prevent them from going to the funeral," Ferrer added.

Ferrer one of 75 d arrested in a 2003 sweep, heads the Patriotic Union of Cuba, an opposition group active in eastern Cuba that the late Villar belonged to. Ferrer was released from prison in 2010.

Elizardo Sanchez, who leads the banned but tolerated Cuban Committee for Human Rights and National Reconciliation, told AFP that Villar had spent several days in "critical condition" at a hospital.

"The Cuban government bears complete moral, political and legal responsibility for the death of Wilmar, because he was in the custody of the authorities," Sanchez said, calling it an "avoidable death."

Cuban authorities have not commented on the case, but the official blogger Yohandry wrote that Villar died of "multiple organ failure due to general sepsis," a blood disease caused by a bacterial infection.

Villar is the second Cuban dissident to die in a hunger strike in recent years after Orlando Zapata -- considered a "prisoner of conscience" by Amnesty International -- died after 85 days without food in February 2010.



Health & Living

Bird flu researchers agree to 60-day halt

WASHINGTON (AFP) - International scientists on Friday agreed to a temporary two-month halt to controversial research on a bird flu virus that may be easily passed among humans, citing global health concerns.

Two separate teams of researchers, one in the Netherlands and the other in the United States, found ways late last year to engineer the H5N1 virus so that it was transmitted among mammals, something that has previously been rare.

The breakthrough raised alarm the method could fall into the wrong hands and unleash a massive flu pandemic that could cost millions of lives, and a US advisory panel in December urged that key details should remain unpublished.

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"We propose to do so in an international forum in which

the scientific community comes together to discuss and debate these issues."

The US journal Science and the British magazine Nature have been working with researchers on edits to the manuscripts but have not said when or if they would eventually be published.

Until now, bird flu has been rare in humans, but particularly fatal in those who do get sick. H5N1 first infected humans in 1997 and has killed more than one in every two people that it infected, for a total of 350 deaths.

The concern is the virus could mutate and mimic past pandemic flu outbreaks such as the "Spanish flu" of 1918-1919 which killed 50 million people, and outbreaks in 1957 and 1968 that killed three million.

Shortly after the research came to light, the US National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity, a non-governmental panel of 23 experts, urged the two leading scientific journals to edit out key details.

"The US government is the one that paid for these experiments, so I think that it is the responsibility of the US government to step forward at this time. But it needs to be a global effort and we need a global consensus," NSABB chair Paul Keim told AFP in December.

"This is such a dangerous

biological weapon, it would not be controllable. Whoever used it would doubtlessly decimate their own people as well," said Keim.

Soon after, National Institutes of Health experts began working with researchers and editors to pare back the reports for publication, despite outcry from some scientists who said the work must be shared.

Among them was top Dutch scientist Ron Fouchier, who downplayed the threat to biosecurity and told AFP in December that the data "needs to be shared with countries where H5N1 viruses cause outbreaks so that the countries can now be on the lookout if these mutations arise."

However, Fouchier and other top researchers all signed on to the latest letter agreeing to a temporary halt to research.

Tips for Beautiful Lips

Lips take a lot of abuse, but they lack the protection that the rest of our skin enjoys. They have no oil or sweat glands, and they're constantly exposed to irritants: the tip of the tongue, our food and drinks, environmental pollutants, the weather -- and measures should be taken in home to help protect your lips.

Hydration - First of all make sure that you drink plenty of water, Lip balm should be applied on lips to keep them moisturized and shiny.

Moisturize and nourish - You can use honey to massage your lips as you can use it combined with olive oil or vitamin E oil or can also use ghee vaseline every night before going to bed.

Exfoliation - A simple and

handy tip: in the morning, gently massage your lips with a soft toothbrush.

Avoid Bad Habits - Bitting on lips will cause tissues to swollen, torn and sore . Also avoid too much of caffeine and smoking, this can cause dehydration and skin darkening.

Lip care is an integral part of beauty regimen. Only a few simple steps ensure that you have a beautiful and healthy looking lips.

PALM BEACH # 184

TEI: (297) 586-8540





Dr. Ryan Peterson brings "Confronting the Climate-Energy Challenge" home to Arubans

Continued from page 1



Economic loss from distruction to the environment



Photos of flooding taking place since 2004

He responded "The short answer is yes; our contribution is less than 1% to global warming, yet, there are other avenues we may come to reflect on as we show Aruba can play a leading role in impacting the discussion on climate change."

His first suggestion was we all learn to SCUBA dive, as it appears with rising sea levels it will become a vital skill in the not too distant future, as one of the great issues, and according to the data, destined to impact us in the next 50-100 years, is the dramatic rise of sea levels due to the steady melting of ice packs in southern Greenland and other areas fringing the polar circles.

"We are not going to duck climate change," he continued. "We cannot just put our heads in the water and say "this is happening someplace else." It has been creeping up on us over the past 100 to 300 years and will continue. It is happening...the effects are there...which begs the question, what do you do regarding the effects of climate change?"

Looking at scenarios and data of what climate change can mean for Aruba, he admitted there is an "uncertainty" factor of how it will affect our beaches, a prime attraction of Aruba's principal pillar of the economy, tourism. Scientists are projecting flooding, not necessary by the 1 meter rise in sea levels predicted in the 50 to 100 year scenario, but by only a few centimeters in the next 20 to 30 years.

"We see some of this happening already, whether it is climate change or effect due to storm surge, we have yet to determine. However, these storm surges are moving well way into the communities, which then requires an element of community involvement, community design, "urban renewal" if you like. These are elements which have been integrated into the current discussion."

Images of flooding Aruba has experienced over the past 10 years, brought home the point of what the island could face, as well as a dramatic graph of the permanent loss of a substantial amount of shorefront.

Combine this with the negative effects of rising sea temperatures on bio-diversity and the bleaching of the reefs, and Aruba and surrounding islands are looking at the loss of over \$400 billion in revenues from these vital systems. Add the

effect of the reduction of oxygen in the seas and the loss of their natural environment, and eventually, those making their lives as fisherman and a population whose diet is based on the bounty of their surrounding waters, will be left jobless and hungry. Photos of Aruba's marine environment punctuated that "climate change is not something that is happening in the rest of the world; it is happening here, where we are not looking at it. If you look at the marine envrironment like the canary in the coal mine, you will see that some of our species, both in the air and under the sea, are disappearing. Within a decade, certain endemic species, such as our prikichi, will not longer be there."

"What is the cost of our inaction?" he asked. "Yes, technologies are expensive; action is not cheap...we may think our contribution is insignificant globally, but does that mean we sit back and do nothing? Can we not take actions locally that could have important implications internationally? Ask yourself: where would you rather swim? With glory on one hand or among dead reefs?"

As a nation where nearly all our foodstuffs are imported, how do we prepare for a world where food shortages are inevitable? Not only will this effect those living here who may not be able to buy what they need, but how will it affect a tourism industry dependent on offering excellent dining options? Aruba's marine life is an integral part of the island's culture and lifestyle, as well as its economy, so one of the questions examined during the workshops was how to preserve it.

"The attitude of we are small and insignificant-poor

me, poor me, poor me; is not going to help us," asserted Dr. Peterson. "I strongly believe, in the spirit of John F. Kennedy and Albert Einstein that our problems are manmade and therefore can be solved by man. BUT, only if, by examining how we create these problems we can rise above these mechanisms, whether that be through resilient technologies or public diplomacy. We need to think in terms of showing where Aruba IS leading the way, and how Aruba, as an island, as a community, CAN make a difference in that discussion and somehow symbolically lead the way by showing what can be done rather than sitting back and thinking...oh well, we can't do anything about this situation."

The bottom line in this discussion and the primary goal is sustainability, and Dr. Peterson feels that how we integrate physical and social systems is vital, as it is not only about the development and deployment of technologies, but community building and support by all levels of the population in their daily actions. He suggested there are industries, such as the hotel industry, that could contribute greatly to the advancement of renewable energy sources on Aruba, and he feels that incentives should be considered in bringing such industries and the general population onboard with the pro-

Dr. Peterson pointed out in closing, as to why he believes in the importance of these actions and their necessity, by citing the famous Native American proverb "We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, we borrow it from our Children."

By Rosalie Klein



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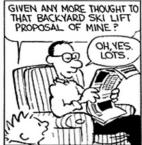


CALVIN and HOBBES









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HITTING THE TV JACKPOT

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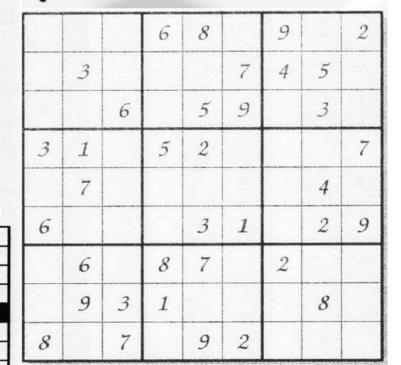
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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Finance

Italy launches sweeping reforms to revive economy

MILAN (AFP) - The government of Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti yesterday adopted a controversial liberalisation program aimed at breathing life into debtstricken economy that is headed into recession.

Technocrat Monti's aim is to get Italy growing again after years of lagging its eurozone peers so that it can eventually reduce a debt pile equal to 120 percent of Gross Domestic Product, double the 60 percent EU ceiling.

"The cabinet today adopted a draft bill with a package of

structural reforms for growth," Monti said at a press conference after the meeting.

He explained that the measures were aimed at boosting competition in several sectors and improving Italy's creaking infrastructure.

"The Italian economy has been held back for decades," he said. "More competition means more openness, more space for young people, less space for privileges and rentseeking, more space for merit."

The plan is aimed at ending protectionist practices by taxi drivers, pharmacy owners and

petrol stations among others, and has been strongly resisted by trade unions but is seen as a necessary evil by many Italians.

Much of the economy remains sheltered from competition by restrictions and many professions are often organised around associations dating back decades.

With the economy expected to shrink by 1.2-1.5 percent this year according to the Bank of Italy, the government is under pressure to stop the rot and convince markets the country can avoid an international bailout.



MADRID -- A shop window displaying a placard of the Federation of Self-Employed Retail Traders (CE-COMA), which represents Madrid's small shopkeepers, reading in Spanish "Stop the 365 days opening" is pictured in Madrid, Spain. Plans to allow round-the-clock shopping in Madrid to fight Spain's economic downturn are worrying small shopkeepers, who say they will be unable to compete with large chains and department stores. (AFP PHOTO)

EU readies unprecedented Iran oil, bank sanctions

BRUSSELS (AFP) - The European Union is readying its toughest action to date against Iran, moving to dry up funding of its contested nuclear drive by targeting both its oil and financial sector, diplomats said Fyesterday.

Foreign ministers from the 27-nation bloc meeting in Brussels on Monday are expected to agree to sanction Tehran's central bank -- and possibly other banks -- and announce an embargo on purchasing Iranian oil, EU officials and diplomats said.

In the build-up, French President Nicolas Sarkozy urged "much tougher, more decisive sanctions" as a means of avoiding military action while German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle warned Iran was endangering world peace.

"Those who do not want to reinforce sanctions against a regime which is leading its country into disaster by seeking a nuclear weapon will bear responsibility for the risk of a military breakdown," Sarkozy said.

Westerwelle said Monday's new "very substantive sanctions" aimed to make the point that Iran's nuclear behaviour "is unacceptable and a danger to world peace."

Also expected Monday are bans on the sale of gold, dia-

monds and other precious metals to Iran and any delivery of newly minted coins and notes. Existing bans on petrochemical imports and investment are to be enlarged.

Reports however of an imminent resumption of international talks with Iran on its disputed nuclear program were dashed by EU foreign policy Catherine Ashton, who represents global powers in the negotiations.

Her office said the powers still "are waiting for the Iranian reaction" to a letter sent by Ashton to Tehran months ago offering to re-start the talks but only "without pre-conditions."

change Rates Current as of: Selling Cheques 01/21/2012 Rate Code 1.80 1.78 **USD** U.S.A 100.00 100.20 98.00 **Dutch Antilles ANG** 1.76 1.78 1.74 Canada CAD 2.74 2.80 Britiain 2.69 **GBP** 190.83 191.63 Switzerland 190.11 **CHF** 232.10 Netherlands 229.79 **EUR** 227.71 Sweden 25.90 26.70 **SEK** 25.18 Denmark 30.66 31.46 29.94 DKK Norway 29.03 29.75 30.55 NOK 228.79 230.88 Japan 233.20 **JPY** (per 10,000) All rates for amounts up to AWG 100.00 per item.

Bailouts only buy time for eurozone, says German minister

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Endless rescue packages for indebted economies are not the answer to the eurozone's woes, German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle insisted yesterday, urging fiscal reform at the region's roots.

Speaking a day after Greece announced talks on a new IMF bailout and as Athens struggles to get creditors to write off much of its debt, Westerwelle said the region must now commit to long-term fiscal probity.

"The debt economy itself has reached its limits," he told the Brookings Institution think-tank in Washington.

"Rescue packages and short-term liquidity are not a solution to the crisis. They are buying us time in which to address the root causes -no less, but also no more."

The "big bazooka" remedy advocated by many -- a massive support fund to buy time

for Greece, Italy, Ireland, Spain and Portugal to right themselves -- was not enough for Europe to turn the economic corner, he said.

As the eurozone's leading economy and principle creditor for any further bailouts, Germany has pressed the heavily indebted eurozone countries to quickly introduce structural reforms.

He praised them for "the efforts and sacrifices they have made" in slashing spending that has taken their economies into recession.

But he said, "by no means do I advocate austerity only" as the solution to the problem.

"Budget cuts alone will not do the trick. Structural reforms are essential for the creation of new growth. They are also essential for the longterm cohesion of the Eurozone," he said.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

DAMES MONK ARMS I DE AL ERIE MEAL SANTA CINE PLOY CRUSTA CEAN HARE ELAN ELIXIR OVERDO THROB PELE NOSE SIEVE TRIPPER MUTATES STATE ASST NUNS IRANI INSIDE SCALED MACY TAXI MAMMALIANS ARIA ISEE OLDIE LOON TERN NIECE ELMS SASS SANER

GE posts solid 2011 profit, soft 4th quarter

NEW YORK (AFP) - US industrial conglomerate General Electric yesterday posted a 16 percent rise in profit for 2011 but capped the year with a weak final quarter amid slow growth in debt-wracked Europe.

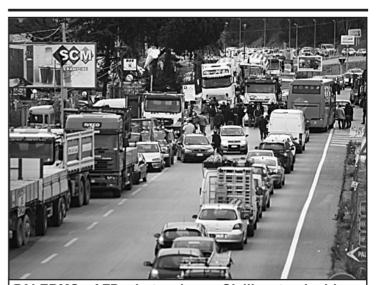
GE reported full-year net profit of \$13.12 billion compared with \$11.34 billion in

2010.

But fourth-quarter profit fell 16 percent year-on-year, to \$3.73 billion, the company said in a statement.

Net revenues fell 2.0 percent to \$147.3 billion for the year and 8.0 percent for the quarter, to \$37.97 billion.

Both revenue figures were well below market expectations.



PALERMO: AFP photo shows Sicilian truck drivers blocking an entrance of Palermo in Bolognetta during a blockade action to protest the petrol price on January 19, 2012. Farmers and fishermen joined the "pitchfork" movement which started on January 16 leading to a shortage of oil and food in the supermarkets.

Carnaval 2012 Prins and Panchos receive their prizes from SETAR N.V.



On Thursday, the Aruba Carnaval 2012 Prins and Panchos in child, youth and adult catagories were welcomed at SETAR N.V. headquarters in Seroe Blanco to receive their prizes for their hard earn wins, from Aruba's telecommunications company. Winners were: Eduardo Loefstop and Pancho: Jonathan Thiel in the adult category; Prins: Jorden Hilario and Pancho Emon Web in the youth category; and Jayrick Lopez and Pancho Pressy Pesqueira in the child category. All the winners received valuable awards personally given them by marketing executives of SETAR.



TOB Youth Queen, Edelysse Nicolaas, to grace San Nicolas Balloon Parade



Recently, TOB Youth Queen, Edelysse Nicolaas received the pleasant news that Visser Trading has granted her sponsorship. The company will provide Vitamin water for her during the Carnaval 2012 Season

She immediately invited

the students of Sonrisa, a school for the mentally challenged, to jump with her in the Balloon Parade this coming Sunday in San Nicolas. The Sonrisa students will go costumed as Indians.

This week, Edelsysse went personally to Sonrisa to deliver the t-shirts for the group, so they can wear during Sunday's parade. She is proud to have these special

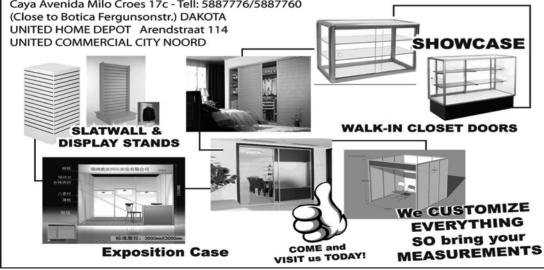
supporters as part of her parade group, and knows they enjoy our Carnaval as fully as any participant.

Édelysse also had another surprise: VIP tickets for the Sonrisa group to go to the 2012 Carnaval Children/Youth election, Queen with her logo teeshirts so they can cheer her on to victory. The election is on Febraury 3, at the Aruba Entertainment Center

Edelysse expresses her gratitude

to Visser Trading, whose sponsorship enables her to enjoy Carnaval with the Sonrisa youngsters. She invites the entire community to come and enjoy the Balloon Parade this Sunday in San Nicolas while admiring the spirit and stamina of the Sonrisa crew. They will surely have a ball, dancing in this parade and participating in other events that are part of Carnaval 58







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Cool Casino where those in the know go to play!



The great perks of gaming at Cool Casino in the Palm Beach has created a dedicated clientele; ask them what they like about the cozy casino, and they don't know where to start! The free slot tournaments every Sunday? Major payoffs in their weekly Blackjack tournaments every Tuesday and Friday? Ladies' night every Wednesday with entertainment from great local bands? Or perhaps just the terrific benefits of

Cool Casino is a great being "One Cool Member" which earns players bonus place to learn to understand points towards additional acsuch table games as Craps and tivities, free dinners, day Roulette, as they offer free inpasses at the Riu Resort, structions and minimums for credit for play, or best of all: beginners with which anyone hard, cool cash! The casino can have fun and feel very opens daily at 10:00 AM and comfortable. High-stakes taon Saturdays and Sundays, all bles and a major weekly are greeted with an early blackjack tournament will

morning "Kaffie Klatch" and triple points when using their membership cards.

keep veteran high-rollers happy, as well as periodic special events that attract an international crowd; stop by and check their schedule.

while testing the slots or trying your hand at the tables, and the opportunity to enjoy exclusive pay-per-view major sporting events at one of their dozens of plasma screens, and you can understand why loyal patrons find Cool Casino THE fun place to play. Slot machines are open from 10:00 AM until 4:00 AM daily, and gaming tables open at 5:00 PM; ask for their schedule of special events and bonuses, as there are so many choose from, but every day offers something to get the

Add to all this free drinks



Parents Guide to Skin Protection



It's important to protect your children's skin from the damaging effects of the sun. No matter what they're doing or what time of year it is, if they are outdoors, they need to be protected.

Aruba is one of the places in the world where the sun is the strongest. Located only 12.5 degrees north of the equator, the sun shines with maximum strength and penetrates the atmosphere with a maximum amount of UV rays. What most people don't know on water and sand, which means that even in the shade you need protection.

Protecting the skin from the sun during childhood and adolescence is important in reducing cancer risks later in life. By building safe sun habits into your family's daily routine, you will make your children understand and get used to being protected against the sun and they will become more



aware of the harmful effects it can have to their skin. Parents should take the lead by giving the good example; children will respond better when they see their parents protecting their skin as well.

Important recommendations:

•Wear protective clothing when out in the sun. Choose shirts and slacks made of tightly woven fabrics that you

- can't see through when held up to light.

•Cover up with Hats. Choose hats that shade your child's face, neck and ears.

•Apply Sunscreen every day on skin that is not protected by clothing or a hat. Choose a sunscreen with a high Sun Protection Factor (SPF) such as Aruba Aloe's Waterproof SPF 30 sunscreen for maximum protection. For babies and children under 2 years old, make sure to use a special sunscreen that gives extra protection for the sensitive skin such as "Waterproof Babies SPF 30" from Aruba Aloe. Remember to reapply after swimming, sweating or toweling dry if you use a sunscreen that is not waterproof.

•Use sunscreen even on



hazy or overcast days.

•Keep an extra bottle of sunscreen in the car.

•Pack a bottle of sunscreen in your child's bag.

•Use Sunglasses that block UV rays and protect the eyes and the surrounding tender skin.

•Play in the Shade. The sun's rays are generally strongest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If your children are outdoors, make sure their skin is protected.

•Teach your children the shadow rule. When outside, if your shadow is shorter than you are, it means that the sun is high in the sky and the UV rays are most intense.

•Protect children younger than 6 months of age with clothing and keep them in the shade.

For more advice on how to best protect your and your children's skin against the sun, please call Aruba Aloe: 588-3222 or visit the website www.ArubaAloe.com

Aruba Aloe products are available at most hotels, supermarkets, pharmacies and the Aruba Aloe Stores.





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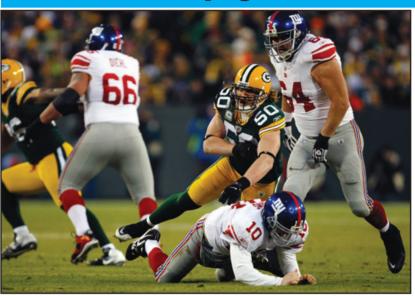
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Everybody say "PARANGARACUTIRIMICUARO"

NFL: Sibling coaches, old rivals continues from page 16



A.J. Hawk #50 of the Green Bay Packers knocks down Eli Manning #10 of the New York Giants during their NFC Divisional playoff game at Lambeau Field on January 15, 2012 in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

At New England, the Ravens offer a similar defensive-

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Tel: 588-9517 / Fax: 588-9518 E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Website: www.themorningnewsaruba.com powered squad against Brady, who won three Super Bowl titles in four seasons in the 2002-2005 title games and was denied another by the Giants in 2008 only in the final seconds.

Baltimore defensive back Ed Reed said teammate Joe Flacco, the Ravens' quarterback, "was kind of rattled" and "just didn't look like he had a hold on the offense" in last week's playoff victory over Houston.

Flacco said that while he might not post the flashy yardage totals of Brady,

Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 3 p.m.

Manning or New Orleans' Drew Brees, he still finds ways to spark victories.

"It's not really that big of a deal," Flacco said. "We talked about it. We are a team... I don't really take things that bad."

As star Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis put it, "The only issue we have as a team is going up and trying to get a big win. Anything else is irrele-

Brady has thrown for a career-high 5,235 yards this season, the second-best total in NFL history behind record-setting Brees, and favorite targets Wes and Rob Welker Gronkowski are a major worry for Ravens defenders.

"You can't make that many mistakes, or else they're going to expose you," Baltimore linebacker Terrell Suggs said.

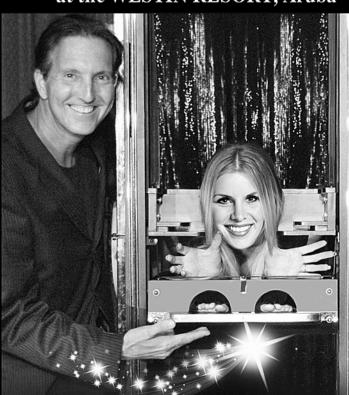
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NFL: Sibling coaches, old rivals in Super Bowl hunt

NEW YORK (AFP) - New England quarterback Tom Brady and New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning were back at practice on Thursday as teams began their final preparations for Sunday's NFL semi-final playoff showdowns.

The Giants, fresh off ousting NFL regular season win leader Green Bay, will visit the San Francisco 49ers while the Baltimore Ravens will travel to New England in conference title games to determine the opponents for Super Bowl 46.

Manning missed most of Wednesday's workout with a stomach ailment while Brady sat out Wednesday's Patriots practice to rest a sore left shoulder.

"I just missed practice, that's all," Brady said. "We're facing a great team, certainly the best team we've faced all year. Everyone needs to be at full strength. It's going to be a very physical, tough, hardnosed game."

The 49ers are coached by Jim Harbaugh while the Ravens are guided by his brother John, who is 15 months older. Baltimore beat San Francisco 16-6 last November in the first NFL game to feature coaches who were brothers.

It's possible they will have a rematch with a championship at stake in the Super Bowl on February 5 at Indianapolis.

Or they both might be knocked out and the Giants and Patriots will face a rematch of the 2008 Super Bowl in which New York upset New England in the final seconds to deny the Patriots a perfect season.

The 49ers try to return to the Super Bowl for the first time since taking their fifth title in 1995, seeking another title to match the record six Super Bowls won by Pittsburgh.

San Francisco, in the playoffs after a 10-year absence, have used a stellar defensive unit to power their playoff push.

The 49ers, who beat the Giants 27-20 last November in a regular-season game, will be tested by a passing attack centered around Manning and top targets Hakeem Nicks, Victor Cruz and Mario Manningham.

"Nicks can make any catch, run any route. Cruz is trouble in the slot, a real quick guy, and Manningham is a deep threat down the middle," said 49ers cornerback Carlos Rogers.

"They all possess a different challenge and it seems like they are getting better every week."

But the 49ers have made 23 interceptions and sacked rival passers 42 times, enough to keep the Giants from pondering Super Bowl dreams too much.

"It's good to look ahead," Cruz said. "It's good to understand what we're playing for but we have to understand the task at hand, that bridge we have to cross in order to make it to our ultimate goal. San Francisco is that bridge."

The 49ers have produced enough points to support the defense, quarterback Alex Smith adopting a low-key manner even as he evolves beyond simply managing his way to victory.

way to victory.

"If we win this game and go to the Super Bowl it will say a lot," Smith said. "Winning games speaks for itself. That's how you do your talking."

continues on page 14







SALT LAKE CITY(AFP) - Freestyle ski star Sarah Burke died on Thursday from injuries sustained in a superpipe training accident suffered earlier this month, the Canadian Freestyle Ski Association said. University of Utah Medical Center officials confirmed that Burke died at 9:22 am in the presence of her family after her fall on a training superpipe at nearby Park City on January 10. She was 29. Doctors said she suffered a ruptured vertebral artery that reduced blood flow to the brain, leading to severe bleeding. She remained in a coma and on life support from the time she reached the Salt Lake City hospital.Doctors discovered Burke had suffered irreversible brain damage after going into cardiac arrest. "The family expresses their heartfelt gratitude for the international outpouring of support they have received from all the people Sarah touched," said a statement from Burke's family, who donated her organs for transplant.Burke, a four-time Winter X Games champion, has been instrumental in raising the profile of freestyle halfpipe and was an enthusiastic and influential supporter of its inclusion in the Olympics from 2014. Burke would have been among the medal favorites in Sochi for the women's superpipe debut. The Park City course where Burke was injured was the same one upon which snowboarder Kevin Pearce was critically injured in a 2009 training run. (2008 file photo)